

Ministry of Education
Transfer Payments and
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Ministère de l'Éducation
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2008: SB15

MEMORANDUM TO: Secretary Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Andrew Davis
Director
Transfer Payments and Financial Reporting

DATE: June 18, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008-09 Estimates Forms - Isolate Boards

I am pleased to inform you that the 2008-09 Estimates Forms, Technical Paper – Addendum for School Authorities and related instructions are now available on the Financial Reporting website at <http://tpfr.edu.gov.on.ca>. From the home page, please click on the Estimates link.

The enhancements and changes to the 2008-09 funding model are similar to those provided to district school boards in the Grants for Student Needs (GSN). Details of the funding model are outlined in the Technical Paper, found on the Ministry's public website at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca>. The addendum to the technical paper deals with specific funding issues unique to isolate boards. In 2008-09, the government will allocate almost \$39.4M to elementary and secondary education for School Authorities through the GSN.

As indicated in memorandum 2008:B2, provincial labour discussions are currently taking place, and once they are concluded, there may be further enhancements to the 2008-09 GSN. For planning purposes, boards are advised to take into account the funding committed as a result of the 2004-08 labour framework, i.e. the 0.7 percent increase and the increase in elementary specialist teachers/elementary teachers' preparation time. Boards should make appropriate adjustments in their current budget planning for any contingencies arising from actual salaries and funding benchmarks.

Key changes to the Estimates forms this year include:

- Changes to incorporate two new special purpose grants which had previously not been part of the GSN funding model:
 - Safe Schools Supplement
 - New Teacher Induction Program

- A change to include funding for the Reporting Entity Project as part of the GSN funding model. This funding is included as a component of the School Board Administration and Governance Grant.
- The introduction of the Community Use of Schools Allocation as a separate special purpose grant.
- An enhancement to the Board Administration component of the School Board Administration and Governance Allocation.

A copy of your individual school authority profile will be made available to you through the Regional Office. The allocations described in the profile are based on the best information available to the ministry at this time and are being provided in order to assist you in preparing your budgets for the 2008-09 school year.

The 2008-09 Estimates are due on or before **August 31, 2008**. Please submit an electronic copy of the estimates to the ministry's mailbox at estimates.met@ontario.ca. Two signed copies of the estimates package are to be sent to:

Ms. Diane Strumila
Project Manager, Grant Services
Transfer Payment and Financial Reporting Branch
21st Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
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I would also like to remind you that the 2007-08 Financial Statements will be due in the Ministry by **November 30, 2008**. Please ensure that your auditors have taken this date into consideration in scheduling their work with your board.

Should you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact Tim Kielman at 1-800-461-9570 or Lisa Tarini at 1-866-849-9900 or David Wright at 1-800-465-5020.



Andrew Davis

cc: Supervisory Officers